

## Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 IO-12 SR-02 ORM-03 RSR-01 /122 W

----- 097651

R 180604 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9774

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DACCA 2243

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, PK, IN, BG

SUBJECT: CURRENT POSTURE NEGOTIATING PROCESS

REF: A) STATE 093487; B) DACCA 1731; C) DACCA 2163

1. FROM BDG VIEWPOINT, APRIL 17 COMMUNIQUE ITSELF SEEMED ESSENTIALLY A PUBLIC RIPOSTE TO PAK "PUBLIC POSTURING" ON POW ISSUE. CURRENT BDG POSTURE STILL ESSENTIALLY THAT REPORTED REF B. NOTHING HAS HAPPENED SINCE DESPATCH THAT CABLE TO SUGGEST BDG HAS ALTERED ITS POSITION. IF ANYTHING, BENGALLEES MAY FEEL THEIR PUBLIC POSTURE STILL FURTHER BENEFITTED BY SUBSEQUENT GOP ROUNDUP OF HIGH RANKING BENGALLEES IN PAKISTAN. BDG ALSO PLACES PROBABLY UNREALISTIC HOPES ON IMPACT OF SPECIAL ENVOYS VISITS TO WORLD LEADERS.

2. HOWEVER, TO EXTENT THAT FLEXIBILITY EXISTED IN BENGALLEE STANCE AT TIME OF APRIL 17 DECLARATION, IT STILL EXISTS, WITH PUBLIC STATEMENTS FOCUSING ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RELATIVELY NONCONTROVERSIAL SUBJECT OF BENGALLEES IN PAKISTAN. BDG HAS NOT COMMENTED EXTENSIVELY ON POSSIBLY NEGOTIABLE PROBLEM OF BIHARIS OR ON WAR CRIMES TRIALS ON WHICH BDG HAS STEADILY INSISTED. WAR CRIMES TRIALS HAVE NOT COMMENCED BUT THERE IS AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT BDG LAW MINISTER IS PREDICTING OCTOBER RATHER THAN MAY TIMING ESTABLISHED WHEN APRIL 17 COMMUNIQUE RELEASED. NO EVIDENCE YET EXISTS TO INDICATE DELAY IN TRIALS RELATED TO BDG NEGOTIATION POSITION.

3. WHATEVER WILLINGNESS TO BARGAIN ON SPECIFIC POINTS BDG MAY FEEL "IN PECTORE", BENGALLEES ARE NOT TROUBLING TO GIVE ANY PRIVATE SIGNALS NOW. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE BDG MAY BE WILLING TO DICKER OVER NUMBER OF BIHARIS TO BE RESETTLED IN PAKISTAN, BUT WILL CONTINUE TO DEMAND REPATRIATION OF BENGALLEES, AND FOR REASONS STATED REF B STILL INTENDS TO GO FORWARD WITH WAR CRIMES TRIALS.

4. AN IMMEDIATE LIMITATION ON BDG FLEXIBILITY JUST NOW IS INTERNAL DISCORD WITHIN AWAMI LEAGUE CABINET ( REF C) WHICH, ALTHOUGH APPARENTLY PURELY DOMESTIC IN NATURE, WILL FURTHER DISTRACT MUJIB FROM PURSUING PROCESS INITIATED IN JOINT DECLARATION.

5. POSSIBLY SIGNIFICANT FACET TO CURRENT DACCA ASSESSMENT IS THAT SOVIET AMBASSADOR HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO U. S. CHARGE THAT HE THINKS BURDEN OF ACCOMMODATION IS PVW ON BHUTTO. WE EXPECT HE IS GIVING BDG SAME ADVICE, WHICH WOULD REINFORCE BENGALLEE BASIC ATTITUDE.  
NEWBERRY

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, BG, IN, PK  
**To:** ISLAMABAD  
LONDON  
NEA  
NEW DELHI  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
USUN  
**Type:** TE

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